

OVERVIEW

The International Organization for Migration (IOM) in Pakistan collects data on the outflows of Afghans at the Torkham (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa), Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman (Balochistan) border crossing points (BCPs) to better understand the movements of Afghans returning to Afghanistan. The data presented below is harmonised with those from the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), who also cover Ghulam Khan (Khyber Pakhtunkhwa).

On 26 September 2023, the Ministry of Interior in Pakistan announced its decision to enact its "Illegal Foreigners' Repatriation Plan (IFRP)". Between 16 and 31 March 2024, 7,532 Afghan nationals returned to Afghanistan, including 5,057 through the Torkham BCP, 1,149 through the Chaman BCP, 1326 through the Ghulam Khan BCP, while no Afghan nationals returned through the Badini BCP. In addition, border authorities deported 74 individuals due to a lack of valid documentation. Since 1 January 2024, IOM identified 54,227 returns at the four BCPs.

HIGHLIGHTS

- During this reporting period (16 31 March 2024), DTM teams have observed a decrease of 20 per cent in returns compared to the first two weeks of March 2024.
- The number of returnees has decreased significantly since the first two weeks of November, which recorded the highest returns since 15 September 2023.
- Cumulatively, from 15 September 2023, 545,118 individuals have returned to Afghanistan. Ten per cent (54,227 individuals) of this total have returned since 1-January 2024.
- In terms of reasons for outflows, during the current reporting period, 85 per cent of the surveyed returnee families indicated they are moving back to Afghanistan due to fear of arrest.
- During the reporting period, one per cent of the overall flow could be considered vulnerable persons.
- The average cost of travel was higher from the border to the point of destination (PKR 36,598 or USD 132) compared to the point of origin to the border (PKR 35,182 or USD 126).

7,606 AFGHAN NATIONALS RETURNED TO AFGHANISTAN BETWEEN 16 MARCH – 31 MARCH 2024

Undocumented 86% ACC holder PoR holder 3%



Male Female 50.0% 50.0% 60+ (72) 1.2% (83) 1.4% (1,133) 18.3% 18 - 59(1,125) 18.1% (1,166) 18.8% 5 - 17(1,218) 19.6% (730) 11.7% (679) 10.9%

VULNERABILITY TYPE1*

(N = 6,206)













REASONS FOR OUTFLOW (TOP 4)*

Fear of arrest

Communal pressure to return

Unable to pay house rent

Unable to pay household utilities

(Multiple answers, N = 143, can exceed 100%)

DOCUMENTATION TYPE

(N = 7.532)



(Multiple answers, N = 143, can exceed 100%)



AVERAGE COST OF TRAVELLING* (N = 143)



Total average travelling cost PKR 71.780 or USD 258

WEEKLY TRENDS (LAST FOUR WEEKS)

Origin to border

Border to destination

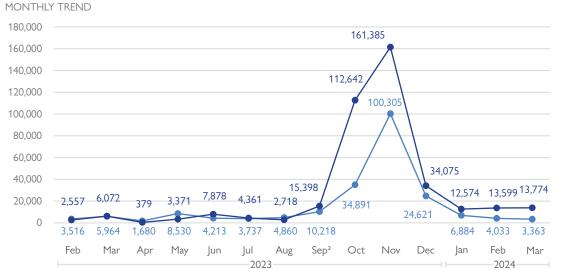
PKR 35,182 or USD 126 PKR 36,598 or USD 132

Exchange rates are PKR 278 to USD 1 according to the UN Operational Rates of Exchange on 1 April 2024.

RETURN TREND - Khyber Pakhtunkhwa (Torkham and Ghulam Khan) - Balochistan (Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman)

85%

16%

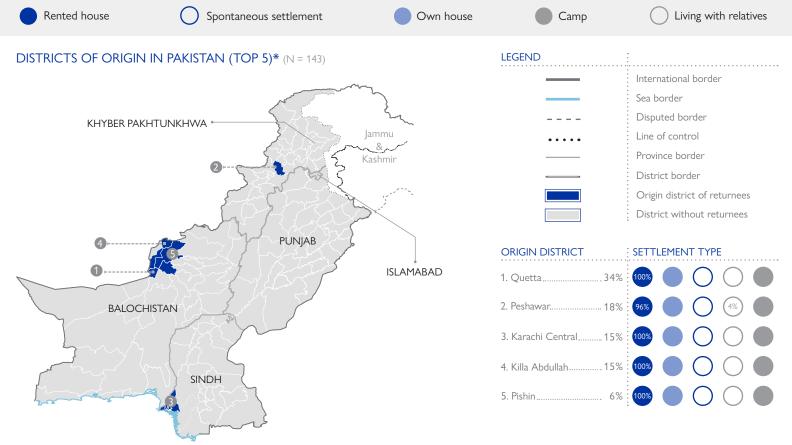


3,775 3,593 2,195 4,211 8 – 15 16 - 2223 - 311 - 7Mar Mar Mar

An asterisk means the visual only applies to ACC holders and undocumented Afghans returning through Torkham, Badini, Bahramcha and Chaman, excluding deportees and data collected by UNHCR

² As of 15 September 2023, IOM and UNHCR have harmonized their flow monitoring data, therefore, data prior to 15 September 2023 does not include PoR holder

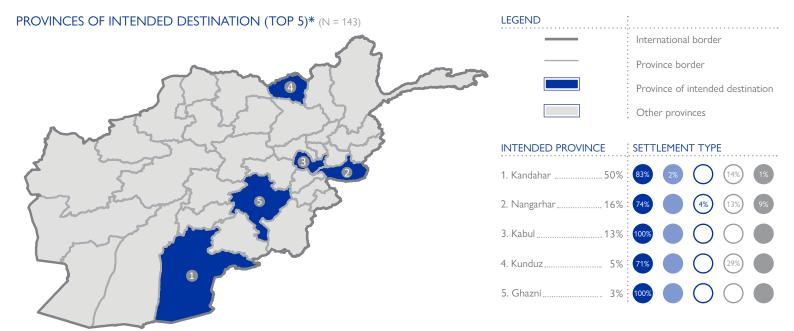




Note: This map and the following legends focus on the top 5 districts of origin in Pakistan during the reporting period from 16 - 31 March 2024

Disclaimer

Dotted line represents approximately the line of control in Jammu and Kashmir agreed upon by India and Pakistan. The final status of Jammu and Kashmir has not yet been agreed upon by the parties. The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever on the part of IOM or United Nations concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities, or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries



This map and the following legends focus on the top 5 provinces of intended destination in Afghanistan during the reporting period from 16 – 31 March 2024

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